

COBBETT'S WEEKLY POLITICAL REGISTER.

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257]

[258

TO JAMES PAUL,
OF BURSLEDON, IN LOWER DUBLIN TOWNSHIP, IN PHILADELPHIA COUNTY, IN THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA; ON MATTERS RELATING TO HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

Letter I.

My dear Friend,

The excellent effect which attended my letter to you, has made me resolve to discuss the present subject in the form of letters to you; a form, which, for various reasons, I have a great liking to, and which has always this strong recommendation, that it affords me an opportunity of proving to you that your friendship and that of your brother and children is always alive in my recollection. At this time, however, another motive has had some weight with me. I understand, that our Government has issued orders for causing all letters for your country to *pass through its hands*, or, which is the same thing, the hands of its agents; and, as I am resolved, that they shall never have the fingering of a letter of mine to America, I will put what I have to say into print, and then it can no more be impeded in its progress than can the clouds, or the rays of the sun.

In the case above alluded to, my letter did, I understand, settle all men's minds at once, as far as it went; and, as it was republished in America, it gives me great satisfaction to reflect on the extent of its influence. Nor was it without its uses here, where the people, at a distance from London, must, of course, know almost as little about the local circumstances of the case as the people in Pennsylvania themselves. Indeed the publication of that letter soon convinced me, that one ought not to take it for granted, that the mass of the people know much about particulars as to any sort of public matter; and that to suppose one's readers to be on the other side of the Atlantic is no bad way of making any case that one discusses quite clear to the people of England; nay, even to nine-tenths of those who walk, in decent clothes, about the streets of London itself.

It is, therefore, in the full conviction that I shall communicate information to a great portion of the people here as well as to the eight millions of people who inhabit the United States, that I now renew my correspondence with you, leaving my promised communication, about the mode of keeping large quantities of sheep upon your farm, till the return of peace, lest, by fulfilling that promise at this time, I should subject myself to the charge of conveying comfort and giving assistance to the enemies of my Sovereign, than which, assuredly, nothing can be further from my heart.

The subject, upon which I now address you, is one of very great interest and of very great importance. It is interesting, as involving the reputation of persons of high rank; and it is important, as being capable of raising questions as to rights of most fearful magnitude.

You will have seen, in your own newspapers, copious extracts from our English daily papers upon the subject of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales; but, these extracts you will find so confused, so dark, so contradictory, so unintelligible upon the whole, so topless and tail-less, that you will from them be able to draw no rational conclusion. You will see Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales abused by these journalists; you will see all sorts of charges by them preferred against her; you will hear one insinuation following another, till, at last, the ear sickens with the sound; but, you will find no where any clear statement of her case. Even her own Letter, which I shall, though for a second time, insert below for your perusal, does not go far enough back to produce that view of her case which ought to be exhibited, in order to a defence of her against the base insinuations which have, for a long while, been in circulation. In short, all that will reach your country, through the channel of these corrupt London Journalists, can only serve to mislead you as to the real merits of the case; and, even I, with a most earnest desire to lay before the world the means of forming a correct judgment, should fail of my object, were I not to revert to the earliest period of

that connexion between the Princess and the Prince, which has, unhappily, been, for some years, interrupted.

It is generally well known, but not improper to state here, that the Princess of Wales is the Daughter of the late Duke of Brunswick, and that her mother is a sister of our present King. Of course she is a first cousin of the Prince her husband. They were married on the 8th of April, 1795, the Prince being then 32 years of age, and the Princess being 26 years of age; the former will be 51 the 12th day of next August, and the latter will be 45 on the 17th of next May. On the 7th of January, 1796, that is to say, precisely nine months from the day of their marriage, was born the Princess Charlotte of Wales, who, being their only child, is the heiress to the Throne, and who, of course, has now completed her 17th year.

Here you have an account of who the parties most concerned are, and of the how and the when of their connexion. But, there were some circumstances, connected with the marriage of the Prince and Princess, to which it will be necessary to go back, in order to have a fair view of the matter.

The Prince, at the time when he was about to be married, in 1795, was *greatly in debt*. He had an annual allowance from the nation, besides the amount of certain revenues in the county of Cornwall belonging to him as Duke of that county. But, these proving insufficient to meet his expenses, he was found, in 1795, to have contracted debts to the amount of £639,890. 4s. 4d.; for we are very particular, in this country, in stating the fractions of sums in our public accounts. You will, perhaps, stare at this sum; but, you may depend upon my correctness in stating it, as I copy it from the documents laid before Parliament.

When the Prince was married, a proposition was made to Parliament for the payment of this sum of debt, which, indeed, seems to have been stipulated for before the marriage; for, in the report of the debate upon the subject of the debts, the Duke of Clarence is stated to have said, "that, when the marriage of the Prince of Wales was agreed upon, there was a stipulation that he should be exonerated from his debts." Much and long opposition was, however, made to the proposed payment by the country, and those who made this opposition contended, that, after having paid his debts, to a great amount,

in 1787, upon a clear understanding, that no more debts should be contracted on his account, the nation ought not to be called on again, and that the King ought to pay the debts out of his annual allowance, which we here call the *Civil List*, and which amounts to nearly half as much as your whole American revenue, though there are eight millions of you on whom to raise that revenue. See how rich a nation we must be!

The proposition was, however, at last agreed to; but, it ought to be borne in mind, that, through the whole of the discussions, the ground upon which this new call upon the public purse rested, was the *Prince's marriage*. The debts were not paid off in a ready sum; but, were to be liquidated by certain yearly deductions to come out of an additional yearly allowance to be made to the Prince; and, in case of the death of the King or of the Prince before the debts were all paid, the payment of the remainder was to fall upon the public revenues. So that it amounted to exactly the same thing in effect as if a simple vote had been given for the payment of the debts, at once, out of the year's taxes.

The King, in his message to the Houses, in about twenty days after the marriage took place, asked for an establishment to be settled upon the Prince "and his *august spouse*," and, at the same time, told them, that the benefit of any such settlement could not be effectually secured to the Prince, "till he was *relieved from his present encumbrances to a large amount*." Upon this ground the Prince's annual allowance from the nation was augmented. It was raised, at once, from £60,000 a year to £125,000 a year; and, of this sum, £25,000 a year were set apart for the discharge of his debts. To this was added a sum of £27,000 for preparations for the marriage; £28,000 for jewels and plate; and £26,000 for finishing Carleton House, the residence of the Prince.

It was necessary to enter into this statement, in order to show you what were the circumstances under which the Prince and Princess came together, and to make you acquainted with the fact, that Her Royal Highness did really bring to her Royal Spouse one of the greatest blessings on earth; namely, a relief from heavy pecuniary encumbrances, which encumbrances would, it is manifest, have continued to weigh upon His Royal Highness had his marriage not taken place.

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with her other claims to love and gratitude. She was represented at the time, and with truth, I believe, as a person of great beauty, but not greater than her sweetness of manners, her acquired accomplishments, and her strength and greatness of mind. She was received in England with transports of joy; addresses of admiration and gratitude poured in upon her from all quarters, and her husband was congratulated as the happiest of men. A similar torrent of addresses came in upon the birth of the Princess Charlotte of Wales. In short, no events seem ever to have caused such unmixed joy in this country as the marriage of this illustrious Lady and the birth of her child.

What a contrast, alas! is presented in the occurrences of the present day! What short-sighted mortals we are! Who, though the most far-seeing of men, could, in 1796, while addresses of congratulation were succeeding each other to the Prince and Princess upon the birth of their child; who, at that day, could have anticipated, that the time was to come, when the mother would have to complain, *aye, and to make public her complaints, of being debarred a free communication with that child!*

This leads us to a consideration of the Princess's Letter; but, I ought, in the first place, to remind you, that it was not, as was stated at the time in print, many months after the Princess Charlotte was born before her royal Mother had a place of residence separate from that of the Prince. Now, this *might* happen without ground of blame on *either* side. There are so many ways in which misunderstandings in families are created; there are so many causes from which the society of man and wife become disagreeable; and these causes may be founded in so many incidents having nothing of crime or blame belonging to them, that, when separations of this sort take place, it is a harsh judgment that will insist upon affixing blame to one party or the other. Therefore, I, for my part, have always been willing to content myself with expressing merely regret upon this subject, in which respect, I am satisfied, that I did no more than follow the example of the great mass of the community. Had things continued in this state; had the parties, though living at a distance from each other, suffered the world to hear nothing from them in the way of complaint against each other, all would yet have been well. Unhappily this has not been the case; accusa-

tions of a very serious nature are, in the public prints, now stated to have taken place in private, and, at last, the consequence has been the writing and the publication of that Letter of the Princess, which I am now about to make a subject of most respectful consideration and remark.

This, however, I shall defer till my next Number, for reasons, which, when that Number shall appear, will, I imagine, be obvious to all my readers.

WM. COBBETT.

London, 24th Feb. 1813.

Copy of a Letter from Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, to His Royal Highness the Prince Regent:—

"SIR,—It is with great reluctance that I presume to obtrude myself upon your Royal Highness, and to solicit your attention to matters which may, at first, appear rather of a personal than a public nature. If I could think them so—if they related merely to myself—I should abstain from a proceeding which might give uneasiness, or interrupt the more weighty occupations of your Royal Highness's time. I should continue, in silence and retirement, to lead the life which has been prescribed to me, and console myself for the loss of that society and those domestic comforts to which I have so long been a stranger, by the reflection that it has been deemed proper I should be afflicted without any fault of my own—and that your Royal Highness knows it.

"But, Sir, there are considerations of a higher nature than any regard to my own happiness, which render this address a duty both to Myself and my Daughter. May I venture to say—a duty also to my Husband, and the people committed to his care? There is a point beyond which a guiltless woman cannot with safety carry her forbearance. If her honour is invaded, the defence of her reputation is no longer a matter of choice; and it signifies not whether the attack be made openly, manfully, and directly—or by secret insinuation, and by holding such conduct towards her as countenances all the suspicions that malice can suggest. If these ought to be the feelings of every woman in England who is conscious that she deserves no reproach, your Royal Highness has too sound a judgment, and too nice a sense of honour, not to perceive, how much more justly they belong to the Mother of your Daughter

—the Mother of her who is destined, I trust, at a very distant period, to reign over the British Empire.

“It may be known to your Royal Highness, that during the continuance of the restrictions upon your royal authority, I purposely refrained from making any representations which might then augment the painful difficulties of your exalted station. At the expiration of the restrictions I still was inclined to delay taking this step, in the hope that I might owe the redress I sought to your gracious and unsolicited condescension. I have waited, in the fond indulgence of this expectation, until, to my inexpressible mortification, I find that my unwillingness to complain, has only produced fresh grounds of complaint; and I am at length compelled, either to abandon all regard for the two dearest objects which I possess on earth,—mine own honour, and my beloved Child; or to throw myself at the feet of your Royal Highness, the natural protector of both.

“I presume, Sir, to represent to your Royal Highness, that the separation, which every succeeding month is making wider, of the Mother and the Daughter, is equally injurious to my character, and to her education. I say nothing of the deep wounds which so cruel an arrangement inflicts upon my feelings, although I would fain hope that few persons will be found of a disposition to think lightly of these. To see myself cut off from one of the very few domestic enjoyments left me—certainly the only one upon which I set any value, the society of my Child—involves me in such misery, as I well know your Royal Highness could never inflict upon me, if you were aware of its bitterness. Our intercourse has been gradually diminished. A single interview weekly seemed sufficiently hard allowance for a Mother’s affections. That, however, was reduced to our meeting once a fortnight; and I now learn, that even this most rigorous interdiction is to be still more rigidly enforced.

“But while I do not venture to intrude my feelings as a Mother upon your Royal Highness’s notice, I must be allowed to say, that in the eyes of an observing and jealous world, this separation of a Daughter from her Mother will only admit of one construction, a construction fatal to the Mother’s reputation. Your Royal Highness will also pardon me for adding, that there is no less inconsistency than injustice in this treatment. He who dares advise your Royal Highness to overlook the evi-

dence of my innocence, and disregard the sentence of complete acquittal which it produced,—or is wicked and false enough still to whisper suspicions in your ear,—betrays his duty to you, Sir, to your Daughter, and to your People, if he counsels you to permit a day to pass without a further investigation of my conduct. I know that no such calumniator will venture to recommend a measure which must speedily end in his utter confusion. Then let me implore you to reflect on the situation in which I am placed; without the shadow of a charge against me—without even an accuser—after an Inquiry that led to my ample vindication—yet treated as if I were still more culpable than the perjuries of my suborned traducers represented me, and held up to the world as a Mother who may not enjoy the society of her only Child.

“The feelings, Sir, which are natural to my unexampled situation, might justify me in the gracious judgment of your Royal Highness, had I no other motives for addressing you but such as relate to myself: but I will not disguise from your Royal Highness what I cannot for a moment conceal from myself,—that the serious, and it soon may be, the irreparable injury which my Daughter sustains from the plan at present pursued, has done more in overcoming my reluctance to intrude upon your Royal Highness, than any sufferings of my own could accomplish: and if, for her sake, I presume to call away your Royal Highness’s attention from the other cares of your exalted station, I feel confident I am not claiming it for a matter of inferior importance either to yourself or your people.

“The powers with which the Constitution of these realms vests your Royal Highness in the regulation of the Royal Family, I know, because I am so advised, are ample and unquestionable. My appeal, Sir, is made to your excellent sense and liberality of mind in the exercise of those powers; and I willingly hope, that your own parental feelings will lead you to excuse the anxiety of mine, for impelling me to represent the unhappy consequences which the present system must entail upon our beloved Child.

“Is it possible, Sir, that any one can have attempted to persuade your Royal Highness, that her character will not be injured by the perpetual violence offered to her strongest affections—the studied care taken to estrange her from my society, and even to interrupt all communication between us? That her love for me, with

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whom, by His Majesty's wise and gracious arrangements, she passed the years of her infancy and childhood, never can be extinguished, I well know; and the knowledge of it forms the greatest blessing of my existence. But let me implore your Royal Highness to reflect, how inevitably all attempts to abate this attachment, by forcibly separating us, if they succeed, must injure my Child's principles—if they fail, must destroy her happiness.

"The plan of excluding my Daughter from all intercourse with the world, appears to my humble judgment peculiarly unfortunate. She who is destined to be the Sovereign of this great country, enjoys none of those advantages of society which are deemed necessary for imparting a knowledge of mankind to persons who have infinitely less occasion to learn that important lesson; and it may so happen, by a chance which I trust is very remote, that she should be called upon to exercise the powers of the Crown, with an experience of the world more confined than that of the most private individual. To the extraordinary talents with which she is blessed, and which accompany a disposition as singularly amiable, frank, and decided, I willingly trust much: but beyond a certain point the greatest natural endowments cannot struggle against the disadvantages of circumstances and situation. It is my earnest prayer, for her own sake, as well as her country's, that your Royal Highness may be induced to pause before this point be reached.

"Those who have advised you, Sir, to delay so long the period of my Daughter's commencing her intercourse with the world, and for that purpose to make Windsor her residence, appear not to have regarded the interruptions to her education which this arrangement occasions; both by the impossibility of obtaining the attendance of proper teachers, and the time unavoidably consumed in the frequent journeys to town which she must make, unless she is to be secluded from all intercourse, even with your Royal Highness and the rest of the Royal Family. To the same unfortunate counsels I ascribe a circumstance in every way so distressing both to my parental and religious feelings, that my Daughter has never yet enjoyed the benefit of Confirmation, although above a year older than the age at which all the other branches of the Royal Family have partaken of that solemnity. May I earnestly conjure you, Sir, to hear my entreaties upon this serious

matter, even if you should listen to other advisers on things of less near concernment to the welfare of our Child?

"The pain with which I have at length formed the resolution of addressing myself to your Royal Highness is such as I should in vain attempt to express. If I could adequately describe it, you might be enabled, Sir, to estimate the strength of the motives which have made me submit to it: they are the most powerful feelings of affection, and the deepest impressions of duty towards your Royal Highness, my beloved Child, and the country, which I devoutly hope she may be preserved to govern, and to shew by a new example the liberal affection of a free and generous people to a virtuous and Constitutional Monarch.

"I am, Sir, with profound respect, and an attachment which nothing can alter, your Royal Highness's most devoted and most affectionate Consort, Cousin, and Subject,

(Signed) "CAROLINE LOUISA.

"Montague-house, 14th of Jan. 1813."

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

FRENCH PAPERS.

(Continued from page 256.)

bestowed on France by virtue of the general laws, one only was granted by Charles the 5th, but which was neither executed nor even acted on afterwards. —The suffrages of the people, the vows of the Nobility, the resolutions of the Council, the testaments of Monarchs, the arret of the Parliaments, have successively and almost always fell under the public influence, where secret passions, intrigue, seduction, corruption, or force bestowed the Regency of the State. —But in the midst of these various examples, it is the Regencies of Queen Mothers that most frequently appear in our annals, and which have always been most conformable to the wishes of the nation, and the interest of the State. Happily, Gentlemen, for social order, it is in the strongest feeling of nature that we find the greatest security for the political opinion and conduct, and this guarantee given by maternal tenderness becomes still more efficacious, as we have before our eyes the happy example in the reciprocal affections which are born, and strengthened incessantly between a people sensible and good, and the August Sovereign, to whom they owe a successor to the Throne. —It is on

this happy principle that the first dispositions of the *Senatus Consultum* are founded, which grants the rights of Regency to the Empress Mother, who is consecrated to fill the void, by interest, the love of her Son and of her people.—It is not sufficient to have established this first rule, it is still requisite that in failure of the Empress, this disposition of the Emperor by establishing a gradual order, fixed and invariable for the exercise of the Regency, shall provide against all incertitudes, and in general against all interruption in the movements of Government. It is there provided that in being called to the Regency, the French Princes shall have obtained the age of 21 years, according to the hereditary order, and in default of them, the Princes Grand Dignitaries fixed by the *Senatus Consultum*.—The Vice Grand Dignitaries shall in this respect, exercise the rights of those titularies whom they represent. To possess not a simple sovereignty, but a throne, a crown, to be in consequence subject to the duties, influenced by the affections, animated by foreign interests, opposite perhaps to the duties, the affections, the interests which ought to direct the Government of France, is in the eyes of reason and policy a motive of exclusion from the Regency, and two articles of the 1st Title, pronounce this exclusion.

TITLE II.

Of the Regency by the Emperor.

That, Gentlemen, which is established by Title I. as a general rule for the exercise of the Regency, may nevertheless be modified by the will of the Emperor, solemnly manifested.—It is without doubt that the interest of the State demands that a stated order should give a Regency to France, at the moment when she becomes the widow of her Monarch, without any change being made in this order, established by foresight and wisdom. But the interest of the State likewise requires, that the Emperor, under such circumstances as the general views of the laws can neither foresee nor define, may, after so much experience of events, the situation of affairs, the knowledge of persons, bring into the common rule modifications dictated by his wisdom, and inspired by the interests of his successors, and of his people.—This wise restriction is sacred, and the manner of making known the object and extent is determined in Title II. and finally in Art. 23 of the *Senatus Consultum*. Council of Re-



TITLE III.

Extent and Duration of the Power of the Regency.

After having instituted the Regency, it is necessary to fix its power.—It embraces in its extent and in the terms of the 1st Art. of Title 3, the whole plenitude of the Imperial authority. It commences at the moment of the Emperor's decease, to the intent that the empire shall neither suffer weakness, nor the interruption of its government.—With regard to its duration, the power remains in the hands of the Empress, in case of one of her minor sons being called to the throne. It passes into the hands of a Regent, if at the death of the Emperor as a minor, the Crown belongs to a Prince of another branch. Separated from the title of Empress, that of mother has not appeared sufficient to call to the Regency the mother of the new Emperor.—This part of the *Senatus Consultum*, Gentlemen, is drawn up as surplus, to shew, that according to this principle generally acknowledged, the exercise of power should not change hands, unless when absolute necessity or great interests require it.

TITLE IV.

Council of Regency.

History teaches us, that in epochs of minorities the Councils of Regency associated in the exercise of the administration, or of the Government, have been dispersed at the will of the Regents, embarrassing if they wished to become independent, inutile if they become seduced or subjected, dangerous if they wished to possess themselves of the public opinion.—It is not such a Council of Regency which is appointed by title 4th, but a Council necessary in a fixed number of cases, useful in all, dangerous in none.—SECT. 1.—This Council shall be composed of the first Prince of the Blood, the uncles, and two of the nearest relatives of the Emperor, according to order of birth, together with the Princes, Grand Dignitaries, at which the Empress or Regent shall preside, and to which the Emperor may add such number of members as he may judge convenient.

Deliberations of the Council.

SECTION 2.—To chuse a consort for the Emperor, declare war, sign treaties of peace, of alliance or commerce, such are the determinations on which the Council of Regency necessarily have to deliberate.—The projected dispositions of the extraor-

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dinary domains, and the necessity of placing the Princes Grand Dignitaries previous to the majority of the Emperor, in case of there being a Regent, is likewise submitted to them.—Being solely consulted in all other affairs, the Council of Regency will always give light into matters, and will never present obstacles to the authority charged with the government of the empire.

TITLE V.

Of the Guard of the minor Emperor.

The Royal Infant which belongs to a great nation, like the child belonging only to a private family, can never repose with greater security than in the arms of its mother. It is therefore to the mother of the Emperor, that the superintendence of his house, the charge of his education, and in short the guard of his person is confided.—The Emperor has not even imagined that any one could suppose a necessity of ever derogating from this sacred rule, and that it must only be in default of a mother, that the person of the minor Emperor is confided by the Emperor previous to his decease, or after his death, by the Council of Regency, to one of the Princes Grand Dignitaries of the empire.

TITLE VI.

Of the Oath to be taken for exercising the Regency.

The Constitution has determined that the Emperor at his accession should take an oath, which should be equally exacted for the exercise of the Regency, and contain special regulations relative to the temporary power attributed to the Regency.—The expression of those obligations should not be entirely the same for the Empress Regent, as for the Regent. The difference is established in 1st and 2d sections of Title 6th, in the first part of the oath.—The 2d, which is in common both to the Empress and to the Regent, is nothing more than the same oath which the Emperor himself takes on his ascending the throne.

TITLE VII.

Of the Administrations of Domains.

The titles of the Senatus Consultum which have just been analyzed, relates to the Government of the Empire, and the charge of the Minor Emperor.—The 7th relates to the Administration of the three species of Domains possessed by the Emperor, and to the manner in which their revenues are to be employed.—With regard to the Administration, the minority

makes no alteration in it, the rules established are to be observed concerning the revenues, the funds allotted to the crown are to follow its destination, and besides supply the housekeeping of the Empress Regent, or of the Regent.—The private Domains, on the contrary, may be a depot for the future, a treasure of power, a guarantee of peace, and it will be wise to take care of their preservation.—The dispositions of the 2d Section of this Title have been provided for, referring at the same time to the forms prescribed by the family statute of the 30th March, and to the dispositions of the Act of Constitution of the 30th January, concerning the Emperor's Domains.—The extraordinary domains remain entirely reserved for exigencies of the state, and the funds existing in its office are like those of the private domain, to be thrown into the Imperial Treasury.—The 44th Article of Section 3d does not even leave the disposition of the vacant benefices, in so far as they do not exceed 50,000 franks in revenue.

TITLE VIII.

Absence of the Emperor or Regent.

I have said at the commencement, Gentlemen, that His Majesty would extend his foresight to all events, and take all the chances of security in favour of maintaining public order and the guarantee of Government.—This sentiment has led him to provide for the case of absence, of the Emperor called to the throne, or of the Prince called to the Regency.—The 1st and 2d Sections of Title 8, provides for it by prorogation of the Ministers' powers, by forming a Council, presided over by the first in rank of the Grand Dignitaries.—Finally, to omit nothing, Section 3d gives the means of resolving in a Privy Council, by the drawing up and proposing a Senatus Consultum, all the unforeseen difficulties which may attend extraordinary conjunctures, and to the variety of which thought has not been able to extend itself.—Here finishes, Gentlemen, what relates to the Regency, and presents an order of ideas relating to, without being entirely dependent on it.

TITLE IX.

Called henceforth to the Government of the Empire, in case of minority, the Empresses will find themselves attached to France by a kind of new alliance, which is formed the moment that the Emperor owes to them a son, the throne an heir, and the nation an object of their love and hope.

—The 9th Title of the *Senatus Consultum* therefore supposes that the Empresses, if the Emperor should authorize it, have the right of being consecrated, crowned, and proclaimed, are capable, so to say, of exercising the Regency. In this august solemnity, Gentlemen, you will find intermixed the strength of remembrance, the grandeur of interests, the force of attention, the extent of hopes, even to the possibility of misfortune, and to providing against regrets.—From this moment the double adoption of the nation by the sovereign, and of the sovereign by the nation, will be consecrated by whatever is most holy in religion, august in human power, and the most consoling Providence, and if possible to render this source of profound reflection and touching emotions still more fruitful. The last title of the *Senatus Consultum* promises the nation to see, as in other epochas of the monarchy, the hereditary Prince King of Rome, anointed and crowned under the auspices of his august Father, take beforehand the holy engagements which he is called to fulfil towards him and the state, and become thus more especially entitled to the love and devotion of the French.—As I have said enough, Gentlemen, in this short exposé to make you appreciate, in all its extent, the importance of this *Senatus Consultum*, a fresh monument of the constant solicitude of the Emperor for the duration of his institutions, the security of his subjects, the glory of his dynasty.—This is the manner, Gentlemen, in which it is proper to reply to mad projects—anarchial hopes—I almost said, to the murderous wishes of our enemies. The People and the Governments which they attempt to deceive, will acknowledge their error, in seeing on the one side, battalions, squadrons, already arrived, or ready to march wherever the safety or glory of the Empire calls them; and on the other, wise prudence guarding the future against improbable misfortunes, and still more strengthening a Government already secured by the affection of all, and defended by the interests of all.

The *Projet* of the *Organic Senatus Consultum* was sent to a Special Commission, and the Senate adjourned to Friday the 5th instant.

Sitting of Friday, Feb. 5.

The Senate met at two o'clock, under the presidency of his Highness the Prince Arch-Chancellor of the Empire.—Count Pastoret, in the name of the Special Commission appointed in the Sitting of the 2d,

made a long Report on the *Projet* of the *Organic Senatus Consultum*, (which will be given to-morrow.—The Senate unanimously voted the *Projet*.)

SENATUS CONSULTUM.

NAPOLÉON, &c.—The Senate, after having heard the Orators of the Council of State, has decreed, and we ordain as follows:

Extract from the Registers of the Conservative Senate, Friday, Feb. 5.

The Conservative Senate assembled to the number of Members prescribed by Art. 90 of the Act of the Constitution of the 13th Dec. 1799;—Having seen the *projet* of the *Organic Senatus Consultum* drawn up in the form prescribed by Art. 57 of the Act of Constitution of the 4th of August, 1802;—After having heard on the motives of the said *projet* the Orators of the Council of State, and the Report of the Special Commission appointed in the Sitting of the 2d of this month. The adoption having been deliberated, to the number of voices prescribed by Art. 56 of the Act of the Constitution of the 4th August, 1802, decrees:

TITLE I.

Of the Regency.

Art. 1. The case occurring, in which the Emperor ascends the throne a minor, without his Father having disposed of the Regency of the Empire, the Empress Mother unites of right to the guardianship of her Son the Regency of the Empire.—2. The Empress Regent cannot marry a second time.—3. In case of the failure of the Empress, the Regency, if the Emperor has not otherwise disposed of it, appertains to the first Prince of the Blood, and in default of him, to one of the other French Princes, in the order of succession to the Crown.—4. Should there not be any Prince of the Blood capable of exercising the Regency, it passes of right to the first of the Princes Grand Dignitaries of the Empire in function at the moment of the decease of the Emperor, to one in default of the other, in the following order, viz. The first, the Arch-chancellor of the Empire; the second, the Arch-chancellor of State; the third, the Grand Elector; the fourth, the Constable; the fifth, the Arch-treasurer; the sixth, the Grand Admiral.—5. A French Prince, seated on a foreign Royal throne, at the moment of the Emperor's decease, is incapable of exercising the Regency.—6. The Emperor not appointing Vice Grand Dignitaries, except when the Titulars are

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called to foreign thrones, the Vice Grand Dignitaries exercise the rights of the Titular, whose places they supply, even in what regards the entrance into the Council of Regency.—7. The Titular Princes of the Grand Dignitaries of the Empire, who, according to Article 51 of the Act of the Constitution of the 18th May, 1804, were deprived of the exercise of their functions at the moment of the decease of the Emperor, cannot resume their functions till they are recalled by the Regent.—8. To be capable of exercising the Regency, a French Prince must be of the age of 21 years complete. All the Acts of the Regency are in the name of the minor Emperor.

TITLE II.

Of the manner in which the Emperor disposes of the Regency.

10. The Emperor disposes of the Regency, either by an act of his will, according to the forms established by the statute of the 30th March, 1806, or by letters patent.

TITLE III.

Of the extent of the power of the Regency, and of its duration.

11. Until the majority of the Emperor, the Empress Regent, or the Prince Regent, will exercise for the minor Emperor all the Imperial power.—12. Their functions commence at the moment of the decease of the Emperor.—13. The Empress Regent appoints to the Grand Dignities and great Offices of the Empire, and of the Crown, which are or become vacant during the Regency.—14. The Empress Regent, or Regent, may appoint or dismiss all the Ministers without exception, and may raise citizens to the rank of Senators conformably to Art. 57 to the Act of the Constitution of the 18th of May, 1804.—15. If the minor Emperor dies, leaving a brother heir to the throne, the Regency of the Empress, or of the Prince Regent, continues without any new formality.—16. The Regency of the Empress ceases, if the order of inheritance calls to the throne a Prince who is not her son. It is provided, in this case, for the exercise of the Regency conformably to Art. 4.—17. If the minor Emperor dies, leaving the Crown to a minor Emperor of another branch, the Prince Regent shall retain the exercise of the Regency till the majority of the new Emperor.—18. The French Prince, or the Prince Grand Dignitary, who exercises the Regency from defect of age, or other impediment, in the Prince called before him to the Regency, by

the Constitution, retains the Regency till the majority of the Emperor.—The French Prince who is prevented by any cause whatever from exercising the Regency at the moment of the Emperor's decease, cannot, that impediment ceasing, take on him the exercise of the Regency.

TITLE IV.

Of the Council of Regency.

Section 1.—*Of the Formation of the Council of Regency.*

19. The Council of the Regency is composed of the first Prince of the Blood, of the Princes of the Blood, uncles of the Emperor, of the Princes Grand Dignitaries of the Empire.—20. If there is no Prince, uncle to the Emperor, the nearest kinsman of the Emperor, in the order of succession, has entrance to the Council of Regency.—21. The Emperor, either by letters or by will, adds to the Council of Regency the names of such members as he judges proper.—22. None of the Members of the Council of Regency can be removed from his functions by the Empress Regent, or the Regent.—23. The Empress Regent, or the Regent, preside in the Council of Regency, or delegate, to preside in their place, one of the French Princes, or one of the Princes Grand Dignitaries.

Sect. 2.—*Of the Deliberations of the Council of Regency.*

24. The Council of Regency deliberates necessarily by the absolute majority of voices.—1. On the marriage of the Emperor.—2. On the declarations of war, and on the signing of treaties of alliance; and—3. On every alienation or disposition to form new dotations of immoveable property, composing the extraordinary domain of the Crown.—4. On the question whether the Regent nominates to one or more of the Grand Dignitaries of the Empire, vacant during the minority?—25. The Council of Regency shall exercise the functions of the Privy Council, as well in matters of grace and favour as in the drawing up *Senatus Consultum*.—26. In case of disagreement, the voice of the Empress or of the Regent shall give the preponderance. If the Presidency is exercised by delegation, the Empress Regent or the Regent shall decide.—27. On all other affairs referred to its examination, the Council of Regency shall have only a consultative voice.—28. The Minister Secretary of State shall hold the pen at the sittings of the Council of Regency, and he shall draw up the proces verbal of its deliberations.

TITLE V.

Of the Guard of the minor Emperor.

29. The Guard of the minor Emperor, the superintendence of his Household, and the care of his education, shall be confided to his Mother.—30. In default of a Mother, or of a Prince designated by the deceased Emperor, the care of the Emperor is confided by the Council of Regency to one of the Princes titulated the Grand Dignities of the Empire.—31. This choice shall be made by a scrutiny, and carried by an absolute majority of voices; in case of being equal, the Regent shall decide.

TITLE VI.

*On the Oath to be taken by the Empress Regent, and that of the Prince Regent, for the exercise of the Regency.*Section I.—*Of the Empress Regent's Oath.*

32. If the Empress Regent has not taken the oath during the Emperor's life-time, for the exercise of the Regency, she shall take it within three months next following the Emperor's decease.—33. The oath shall be taken by the minor Emperor, seated on his throne, assisted by the Prince Arch-Chancellor of the Empire, the French Princes, the Council of Regency, the Cabinet Ministers, the great Officers of the Empire and the Crown, the Ministers of State, and the Grand Eagles of the Legion of Honour, in presence of the Senate and of the Council of State.—34. The oath to be taken by the Empress is conceived in these terms:—I swear fidelity to the Emperor; I swear to conform myself to the Acts of the Constitution, and to observe the dispositions made by the Emperor, my Consort, for the exercise of the Regency, not to consult in employing my authority, aught else than my love and devotion for my Son and for France, and faithfully to return to the Emperor on his coming of age the powers confided to me. I swear to maintain the integrity of the territory of the Empire; to respect, and cause to be respected, the Laws of the Concordat, and the Liberty of Religious Worship; to respect, and cause to be respected, equality of Rights, Civil Liberty; and the irrevocability of the Sales of the National Effects; not to raise any Imposts, nor establish any Tax, but for the use of the State, and according to the fundamental Laws of the Monarchy, to maintain the Institution of the Legion of Honour, and to govern with the sole view of the interest, welfare, and glory of the French People.

Sec. 1.—*Of the Regent's Oath.*

35. The Prince called to the Regency

shall take, within three months after the decease of the Emperor, the following oath, in the same manner, and before the persons appointed to receive the oath of the Empress:—I swear fidelity to the Emperor; I swear to conform myself to the Acts of the Constitution, and to observe the dispositions made by the Emperor concerning the exercise of the Regency, and faithfully to return to the Emperor, on his coming to age of majority, the power confided to me. I swear to maintain the integrity of the territory of the Empire; to respect, and cause to be respected, the equality of rights, the civil liberty, the irrevocability of the sale of National effects, not to raise any impost, nor establish any tax, but for the use of the State, and conformable with the fundamental laws of the Monarchy; to maintain the institution of the Legion of Honour, and to govern with a sole view to the interest, welfare, and glory of the French People.—36. The Prince Arch-Chancellor, assisted by the Minister Secretary of State, shall form a proces verbal of this oath. The Act shall be signed by the Empress or the Regent, by the Princes, the Grand Dignitaries, the Ministers, and the great Officers of the Empire.

TITLE VIII.

*Of the Administration of the Imperial Domains, and of the Disposition of the Revenue in case of a Minority and Regency.*Section 1.—*Of the Crown Funds.*

37. During the Regency, the administration of the Crown Funds shall continue according to the rules established. The use to which the revenues are to be employed is fixed in the usual forms, under the authority of the Empress Regent, or of the Regent.—38. The expense of their house-keeping, and their personal expenses, shall form part of the Crown Budget.

Section 2.—*Of the Private Domains.*

39. When the decease of the Emperor shall take place, the Prince Arch-Chancellor of the Empire, or in default of him, the first in rank of the Grand Dignitaries, shall cause seals to be put on the chests of treasure of the Private Domains, by the Secretary of State to the Imperial Family, in presence of the Grand Judges, of the Chancellor of the Senate, and the Intendant General of the Private Domains.—40. It shall be proceeded with according to the orders of the Family Council, to take inventories of the funds and articles of moveables, by the Secretary of State to the Im-

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perial Family, assisted by the persons nominated in the preceding article.—41. The Council of the Family will attend to the execution of the dispositions of the *Senatus Consultum* of the 30th Jan. 1810, concerning the Partition of the Effects of the Private Domains. The funds belonging to the Emperor, after this partition, shall be thrown by the Treasurer of the Private Domains into the Imperial Treasury, under the care of the Family Council, and placed in the most beneficial manner.—42. The produce of the same shall be successively added to the principal, and the whole remain in reserve until the Emperor become of age.—43. Account shall be rendered of all these operations by the Family Council to the Empress Regent, or Regent, who will give the definitive authorization for placing them out.

Sec. 3.—Of the Extraordinary Domains.

44. The Empress Regent, or the Prince Regent, shall dispose of, if they judge convenient, all the funds of 50,000 franks interest and upwards which have been made before the minority, without having been disposed of, or caused to be returned to the Extraordinary Domains of the Crown during the Regency.—45. The other funds remain in reserve until the Emperor comes of age.—46. The Administration of the Extraordinary Domains shall continue, according to the established rules, as is said before, concerning the Domains of the Crown.—47. The funds which may be found in the Treasury of the Extraordinary Domains, at the time of the Emperor's decease, shall be thrown into the Treasury of the State, and there remain till the Emperor comes of age.

TITLE VIII.

In case of the Emperor or Regent's Absence.

Sec. 1.—In case of the Emperor's Absence.

48. If, at the moment of the Emperor's decease, his successor is out of the territory of the Empire, the powers of the Ministers shall be prorogued until that the Emperor is arrived in the territory of the Empire. The first in rank of the great Dignitaries shall preside in the Council which governs the State, under the form of a Council of Government. The deliberations there shall be taken by an absolute majority of votes; the President having a casting vote in case of being equal.—49. All the Acts shall be made in the Emperor's name, but he shall not commence exercising the Imperial power until he is within the territory of the Empire.

Sec. 2.—In case of the Regent's Absence.

50. In case of the Regent's Absence at

the commencement of a minority, without its having been foreseen by the Emperor previous to his decease, the powers of the Ministers shall be prorogued till the Regent's arrival, as is before mentioned in Article 48.

Sec. 3.—In cases not foreseen.

51. If in the absence of the Emperor, major or minor, or in the absence of the Regent, the Government being in the hands of the Council of Ministers, presided over by a Grand Dignitary, there should be presented, for resolving any questions not decided by the present Act, the said Council of Government, performing the functions of a Privy Council, shall put in form the project of the *Senatus Consultum*, and cause to be presented to the Senate by two of its Members.

TITLE IX.

Of the Anointing and Coronation of the Empress.

52. The Empress Mother of the Hereditary Prince, King of Rome, may be anointed and crowned.—53. This prerogative shall be accorded to the Empress by letters patent, published in the customary forms, and which shall be besides addressed to the Senate, and entered in their registers.—54. The coronation shall take place in the Basilique of Notre Dame, or in any other church designated in the letters patent.

TITLE X.

Of the Anointing and Coronation of the Prince, Imperial King of Rome.

55. The Imperial Prince, King of Rome, may in his quality as Heir to the Empire, be anointed and crowned in the Emperor's life-time.—56. This ceremony cannot take place but by virtue of letters patent, in the same form as those relative to the coronation of the Empress.—57. After anointing and coronation of the Prince Imperial King of Rome, the *Senatus Consultum* laws, regulations, Imperial statutes, decrees, and all other acts emitted by the Emperor, or made in his name, shall bear, besides the indication of the year of his reign, the year of the coronation of the Prince Imperial King of Rome.—58. The present organized *Senatus Consultum* shall be transmitted by a Message to his Majesty the Emperor and King.

The Presidents and Secretaries.

(Signed) CAMBACÉRÈS.

The Count de BEAUMONT.

Count de LAPPAUNT.

(Seen and Sealed) The Chancellor of the Senate.

(Signed) COUNT LAPLACE.

We do hereby command and ordain that these presents, furnished with the Seal of the State, inserted in the Bulletin of the Laws, shall be addressed to the Courts, Tribunals, and other Administrative Authorities, for the purpose of being inserted in their Registers, to be observed and caused to be observed by them; and our Grand Judge, Minister of Justice, is charged with superintending the publication of the same.

Given at our Palace of the Thuilleries, the 5th Feb. 1813.

(Signed) NAPOLEON.

By order of the Emperor,

The Minister Secretary of State,

(Signed) Count DARU.

Seen by us, the Arch-Chancellor of the Empire,

(Signed) CAMBACERES.

Paris, February 14.

To-day, Sunday the 14th of February, His Majesty the Emperor and King departed at one o'clock from the Palace of the Thuilleries, in grand state, to proceed to the Palace of the Legislative Body. Salvoes of artillery announced the departure of His Majesty from the Thuilleries, and his arrival at the Legislative Body.—[Here follows the route the procession took.]—The President of the Legislative Body and 25 deputies received His Majesty at the bottom of the staircase, and conducted him to the apartment prepared to receive him.—The Deputation from the Senate and Council of State having taken their places, and Her Majesty the Empress being seated on the throne, in front of the Emperor's throne, accompanied by Her Majesty the Queen Hortense, and surrounded by the Officers of her Household, the Diplomatic Corps occupied a Tribune to the right.—The Emperor, after having rested himself in his apartment, went to the hall of the Legislative Corps, preceded by his suite. On the entry of His Majesty all the Deputies arose. His Majesty seated himself upon his throne, the Princes, Grand Dignitaries, &c. having taken their places according to their rank.—The Emperor being seated, the Grand Master of the Ceremonies took His Majesty's orders for opening the Sitting.—The Prince Vice-Grand Elector demanded His Majesty's permission to present to him the Members of the Legislative Corps lately elected, and allow them to take the oath.—One of the Officers called over the names, and the oath was taken.—This being finished,

the Emperor delivered the following speech:

"Gentlemen, Deputies from the Departments to the Legislative Body."

"The war again lighted in the North of Europe offered a favourable opportunity to the projects of the English upon the Peninsula. They have made great efforts. All their hopes have been deceived.—Their army was wrecked before the citadel of Burgos, and obliged, after having suffered great losses, to evacuate the Spanish territory.—I myself entered Russia. The French arms were constantly victorious, in the fields of Ostrowno, Polotsk, Mohilow, Smolensk, Moscow, Molairadslavitz. The Russian armies could not stand before our armies. Moscow fell into our power!—Whilst the barriers of Russia were forced, and the impotency of her arms acknowledged, a swarm of Tartars turned their parricidal hands against the finest provinces of that vast empire, which they had been called to defend.—They in a few weeks, notwithstanding the tears and despair of the unfortunate Muscovites, burned more than four thousand of their finest villages—more than fifty of their finest towns; thus gratifying their ancient hatred, under the pretext of retarding our march, by surrounding us with a desert. We triumphed over all these obstacles! Even the fire of Moscow, by which in four days they annihilated the fruits of the labours and cares of four generations, changed in no respect the prosperous state of my affairs.—But the excessive and premature rigour of the winter brought down a heavy calamity on my army; in a few nights I saw every thing change! I experienced great losses! They would have broken my heart, if, under such circumstances, I could have been accessible to any other sentiments than those of the interest, the glory, and the future prosperity of my people.—On seeing the evils which pressed upon us, the joy of England was great—her hopes had no bounds; she offered our finest provinces as the reward of treason—she made as the conditions of peace the dismemberment of this vast empire: it was, under other terms, to proclaim perpetual war.—The energy of my people under these great circumstances; their attachment to the integrity of the empire; the love which they have shewn me, have dissipated all these chimeras, and brought back our enemies to a more just consideration of things.—The misfor-

tunes produced by the rigour of hoar frosts have been made apparent in all their extent. The grandeur and the solidity of this empire, founded upon the efforts and the love of fifty millions of citizens, and upon the territorial resources of one of the finest countries in the world.—It is with lively satisfaction that we have seen our people of the kingdom of Italy, those of ancient Holland, and of the United Departments, rival with Old France, and feel that there is for them no future hope but in the consolidation and the triumph of the Grand Empire.—The agents of England propagate among all our neighbours the spirit of revolt against Sovereigns; England wishes to see the whole Continent become a prey to civil war, and all the furies of anarchy; but Providence has designed her herself to be the first victim of anarchy and civil war.—I have signed with the Pope a Concordat which terminates all the differences that unfortunately had arisen in the Church.—The French dynasty reigns, and will reign in Spain. I am satisfied with all my allies: I will abandon none of them. I will maintain the integrity of their States. The Russians shall return into their frightful climate.—I desire peace; it is necessary to the world.—Four times since the rupture which followed the treaty of Amiens, I proposed it in a solemn manner. I will never make but an honourable peace, and one conformable to the interests and grandeur of my empire. My policy is not mysterious; I have stated all the sacrifices I could make.—So long as this maritime war shall last, my people must hold themselves ready to make all kind of sacrifices; because a bad peace would make us lose every thing—even hope and all would be comprised, even the prosperity of our descendants.—America has had recourse to arms, to make the sovereignty of her flag respected—the wishes of the world accompany her in this glorious contest. If she terminates it by obliging the enemies of the Continent to acknowledge the principle that the flag covers the merchandize and crew, and that neutrals ought not to be subject to blockades upon paper, the whole conformable to the stipulations of the Treaty of Utrecht, America will have credit from all nations; posterity will say, that the old world had lost its rights, and that the new one re-conquered them.—My Minister of the Interior will explain to you in the Exposé of the situation of the empire, the prosperous state of agriculture,

manufactures, and of our interior commerce, as well as the still constant increase of our population. In no age has agriculture and manufactories been carried to a higher degree of prosperity in France.—I want great resources to meet the expenses which circumstances demand; but by means of the different measures which my Minister of Finances will propose to you, I shall not impose any new burdens on my people.”

After the Speech, the Sitting terminated, and His Majesty retired amidst acclamations.—(*Moniteur*, Feb. 15).

Paris, February 13.

His Serene Highness the Prince Arch-Chancellor of the Empire appeared on this day, Saturday, the 13th of February, in the Senate, by order of His Majesty the Emperor and King, for the purpose of presiding at the Sitting. His Serene Highness having been received with the usual ceremonies, caused the Concordat, signed at Fontainebleau, the 25th of January, 1813, between His Majesty the Emperor and King, and his Holiness Pius VII. to be read by one of his Secretaries.

CONCORDAT.

His Majesty the Emperor and King, and his Holiness, being inclined to put a termination to the differences which have arisen between them, and to provide against the difficulties that have taken place in several affairs concerning the Church, have agreed upon the following articles, which are to serve as the basis for a definitive arrangement:

Art. 1. His Holiness shall exercise the Pontificate in France, and in the Kingdom of Italy, in the same manner and same forms as his predecessors.—2. The Ambassadors, Ministers, Charge d’Affaires, of Foreign Powers, to the Holy Father, and the Ambassadors, Ministers, or Charge d’Affaires, whom the Pope may have with Foreign Powers, shall enjoy such immunities and privileges as are enjoyed by the Diplomatic Body.—3. The domains which were possessed by the Holy Father, and that have not been alienated, shall be exempted from all kinds of imposts, and shall be administered by his Agents or Charge d’Affaires. Those which were alienated shall be replaced, to the amount of two millions of francs in revenue.—4. Within the space of six months following the notification of the usage of nomination by the Emperor to the Archbishopricks

and Bishopricks of the Empire and Kingdom of Italy, the Pope shall give the canonical institutions in conformity with the Concordat, and by virtue of this present indulto. The preluding information shall be given by the Metropolitan. The six months being expired without the Pope having accorded to the institution, the Metropolitan, or in default of him, where a Metropolitan is in question, the oldest bishop of the province, shall proceed to the institution of the new Bishop, so that a seat shall never be vacant longer than one year.—5. The Pope shall nominate to the ten Bishopricks either in France or in Italy, which shall finally be designated by mutual consent.—6. The six suburb bishopricks shall be re-established;—they shall be at the nomination of the Pope. The property actually existing shall be restored, and measures shall be taken for recovering what has been sold. At the death of the Bishop of Anagni and Rieti, their dioceses shall be re-united to the six bishopricks before mentioned, conformably with agreement which shall take place between His Majesty and the Holy Father.—7. With regard to the bishops of the Roman states, who are through circumstances absent from their dioceses, the Holy Father may exercise his right of giving bishopricks, in partibus, in their favour. A pension shall be given to them equal to the revenue before enjoyed by them, and they may be replaced in the vacant seats, either in the empire, or in Italy.—8. His Majesty and his Holiness will at a proper time concert with each other on the reduction to be made, if it should take place, in the bishoprick of Tuscany, and the country of Genoa, as likewise for the bishopricks to be established in Holland, and in the Hanseatic departments.—9. The Propaganda, the Penitentiary, and the Archives shall be established in the place of the Holy Father's abode.—10. His Majesty restores his good favour to those cardinals, bishops, priests, and lay brethren, who have incurred his displeasure in consequence of actual events.—11. The Holy Father agrees to the above dispositions, in consideration of the actual state of the Church, and in the confidence with which His Majesty has inspired him, that he will grant his powerful protection to the numerous wants which Religion suffers in the times we live in.

(Signed) NAPOLEON.
PIUS, P. P. 7.

Fontainebleau, Jan. 25, 1813.

NORTHERN WAR.

Official Intelligence from the Russian Armies.

The Commander in Chief of the Armies, Marshal Prince Kutusow of Smolensk, has presented to his Imperial Majesty the continuation of the Journal of military operations, from the 30th December to the 4th January (N. S.) which contains as follows:

Dec. 18 (30).—Major-General Prince Orousoff has, on the 15th (27th) inst. joined the army, with five complete regiments, which are under his orders, and are intended to complete it.

Major-General Ignateef, on the 13th (25th) instant, caused a battalion of Kourinski infantry, and a detachment of the regiment of Lithuanian Uhlans, to depart from the fortress of Bobrynsk for Lithuania.

Dec. 19 (31).—General Count — states, under date of the 17th (29th), that Lieutenant-Colonel Teninhan, who was at Ragnet with his detachment, having received advice that a large body of the enemy's cavalry had shown themselves on the road to Tilsit, immediately put himself in motion to meet them. He discovered four squadrons of Prussian hussars, who were immediately attacked and broken by the Cossacks. We took from the enemy three officers and fifty soldiers. Lieutenant-Colonel Tettenborn perceiving that the enemy was reinforcing himself with infantry and dragoons, and that he had artillery with him, retired to Lenken and placed his advanced guard at Upper Erseln. After occupying Gumbinnen and Insterbourg, we took 81 prisoners in pursuing the enemy as far as Wehlau. The Aid-de-Camp General Wassiltchikoff reports, that four regiments of Don Cossacks had, on the 10th (22d) inst. united with his detachment. He likewise mentions, under date of the 15th (27th), that the Austrian corps under the orders of Prince Schwartzenberg had parted at Tikotchine, and taken two different routes; his left wing takes the way of Wisna and Lomza to Ostrolenka, and he is putting himself in order to pursue the enemy with all celerity. Col. Joussisowitsch, whom he has in the meanwhile detached with two regiments of Cossacks and Charkoff's regiment of dragoons on the road to Wysokomasowetz, is likewise to pursue the enemy and keep a communication with his corps.

Dec. 20 (Jan. 1).—Lieutenant-General Baron Von Sacken reports, under date of the 17th (29th), that Major-General Count

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de Liewen, who was marching on Wysso-kolitorsk, had detached Lieutenant-Colonel Minitzki from his corps, who having advanced on Brest Litovsky, occupied that town on the 13th (25th), and there made upwards of 100 prisoners. His patrols extended as far as Biala, Janow, and Drogilchene. Major-General Boulatoff, who was marching by the way of Prougane and Chirchew to Kaminitz Letovsk, has, on his way, picked up about 500 prisoners. He pushes his patrols as far as Briansk and Bielsk. The Aid-de-Camp General Wassiltchikoff reports under date of the 18th (30th), that the corps under his orders entered Tikotchine on the preceding day. The inhabitants and the clergy, bringing bread and salt, came to meet the Russians with transports of joy. The women left the houses with their children in the tenderest emotions; the cries of *hurra!* a thousand times repeated, and the name of His Imperial Majesty, which reverberated from all sides, announced the joy with which every one was animated. General Wassiltchikoff is meanwhile in pursuit of the enemy on the road to Warsaw.

Dec. 21 (Jan. 3).—On the 17th (29th), General Count Platoff detached the Regiment of Dragoons of Negine to go to Bialystock, by the way of Grodno, under the orders of the Aid-de-Camp General Baron de Korff. General Doctoroff, who likewise takes the route to Bialystock, with the body of troops under his orders, arrived on the 19th (31st) at Wolkawilsk.

Dec. 22 (Jan. 2).—Lieutenant-General Panlucci reports, under date of the 18th (30th), that after the occupation of Mittau, he directed Lieutenant-Colonel Kounitski, of the Regiment of Polish Uhlans, to pursue the enemy who were dispersed in the woods, and that this Officer, in marching by Granzhoff, Gegary, Martynischki, and Okmiana, had taken two Officers and eighty soldiers prisoners.—On the 9th (21st) ditto, the Marquis put himself in march with his column from Mittau to Trouenburg, where his van-guard, under the orders of Lieutenant-Colonel Sanden, of the artillery, came up with the enemy on the 11th (23d) and defeated him, taking 60 prisoners, and making himself master of several carriages, taken under requisition some waggons laden with biscuits, flour, and oats; and took about 40 horses. On the 12th (24th), he arrived at Sehrunden, where the enemy abandoned considerable magazines. On the 13th (25th), he was at Upper Barthau, from

whence he caused his van-guard to advance; which having on the 14th (26th) come up with the enemy, between Rutzaw and Polangen, near Buderachew, beat them, and took two Officers and eighty soldiers. On the 14th (26th), the column proceeded as far as Polangen, where it was rejoined by Lieutenant-Colonel Kounitski.—On the 15th (27th), it arrived before Memel. The garrison, after some resistance, surrendered prisoners of war, to the number of two staff Officers, twenty subalterns, and upwards of seven hundred soldiers. It was thus that our troops entered Memel on the 15th (27th). We there found 200 sick, and about 100 of our prisoners. We seized on three armed sloops, of the French flotilla, in the harbour; we likewise took six sloops, belonging to the Prussian flotilla, with 30 guns; 31 vessels belonging to different nations, and a considerable quantity of colonial produce, imported by the French. In the town we found five pieces of cannon, 900 fusils, 19 carbines, 19 pair of pistols, 900 cartridge boxes, 26,000 cartridges, 60 sabres, and 19 hussar saddles, three field batteries, with five Officers, 84 soldiers, 16 surgeons, one chariot, 85 horses, and four iron boilers. The magazines contain large quantities of all kinds of corn and of brandy.—The head-quarters of His Imperial Majesty and the Marshal continued to be for some time past at Wilna. Thus, there no longer remains an enemy in the whole extent of the frontiers of Russia, and all the former Polish provinces, at this present time under subjection to the Russian sceptre, are evacuated by the foreign troops.—The anointed of the Lord has, without doubt, said by inspiration—"I will not lay down my arms until I have driven from the Russian soil the enemy who has dared to transgress its limits."—This prophecy is fulfilled. The only traces of the enemy which are yet perceptible, are his bones spread over the fields from Moscow to the frontiers of the Empire!

Letter from General Field-Marshal Prince M. G. Kutusow of Smolensko, to his eminence Ambrosius, Metropolitan of Novogorod and St. Petersburg, dated Dec. 23, 1812—(Jan. 4).

Bestow your benediction on this present offered by your warriors to the Giver of Victory, the brave Don Cossacks; restore to God the treasure plundered from his temples. They have intrusted me with the duty of transmitting to your Eminence

this silver, which was once the ornament of the images of the Saints, afterwards the prey of barbarous robbers, and at length wrested from their gripe by the brave Don Cossacks. The leader of this corps of Cossacks, Count M. J. Platoff, all his brave warriors, and myself, wish that this plate, which in weight amounts to forty pounds, shall be made into images of the four Evangelists, and adorn the Church of the Mother of God, of Kasan, in Petersburg. All the necessary expenses of casting these holy images we take on our account; your Eminence will have the goodness to order that able artificers may be employed to fulfil the pious wish of our warriors, by casting these images of the Holy Evangelists, which they offer in their zeal for the Temple of God. As soon as you shall inform me what the expense will be, I will remit to you the money. It appears to me that these images would be appropriately placed close to the door of the sanctuary, and before the great Communion table, that they may strike the eye of the devout when they enter the temple. On the pedestal of each of these images must be engraven the following inscription:—*The zealous offering of the Corps of Don Cossacks.*—Hasten to erect in the temple of God this monument of battle and victory, and while you erect it say with thankfulness to Providence—the enemies of Russia are no more—the vengeance of God has overtaken them on the soil of Russia—and the road they have gone is strewn with their bones, to the utter confusion of their frantic and proud ambition.

The Commander in Chief, Field Marshal Prince G. Kutusoff, of Smolensko, has laid before His Imperial Majesty the continuation of the operations at War, from the 23d to the 29th Dec. (4th to 10th Jan.)

Dec. 23 (Jan. 4).—General Count Wittgenstein reports, under date the 19th (31st) instant, that in the direction which he had taken towards Prussia to act against the corps of Marshal Macdonald, he had overcome all the difficulties in his way on the country roads, and come up with the enemy already at Tilsit. He immediately surrounded Macdonald's troops of the van with his cavalry, and separated him from the Prussian troops under the command of

General D'York, by the detachment of Major-General Dubilsch, whom he at the same time instructed to enter into a negotiation with that General.

On the 18th (30th) of this month, Lieut. Gen. D'York signed an agreement to remain neutral with the troops under his command, consisting of thirty battalions of infantry, and six squadrons of cavalry, with thirty pieces of artillery. By this means, Macdonald has not more than about 5,000 men of all descriptions with him, and twenty pieces of artillery.—Adjutant-General Wassiltchikoff reports, on the 19th (31st) Dec. that the Austrian troops continue their retreat, having divided themselves into three columns, and directed their march towards Warsaw, and that he is at Menshenin, with his detachment.—General Count Platoff continues his march towards Ingleburg, with the regiments of Don Cossacks under his command.—Admiral Tschitschagoff has sent in three Reports, all of the 20th inst. (Jan 1). In the first he states, that he had detached Major-General Lanskow from the van-guard with the Alexandrian and white Russian regiments of hussars, the Livonian regiment of dragoons, and the 3d Oural regiment, with orders to march to Augustow. In the second, that he arrived on the 21st inst. (Jan. 2), in the village of Werbalin, from whence he will proceed in three marches to Insterburg, and that Gen. Count Platoff marches before the army with his regiments. In his third he states, that all the Prussian inhabitants are well satisfied with the approach of the Russian troops, and every where received them with joy.—Lieutenant-General Baron Sacken writes under date of Dec. 21 (Jan. 2), that he has pursued Gen. Regnier's corps as far as the Bug, and that the enemy had lost within that time upwards of 1,000 men in prisoners, and an equal number of sick, whom they had left behind at different places. Lieut-General Sacken, with his corps, is at present between Grannym and Thoren, in which latter place he has the left wing of his army.

Dec. 24 (Jan. 5).—Gen. Count Wittgenstein reports, under date of the 22d inst. (Jan. 3), that when the Prussian troops, 10,000 men strong, with 60 pieces of artillery

(*To be continued.*)